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Timothy E. Nauman
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Seventh Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2518

Dear Mr. Nauman:

This is in response to your letter received 08 December 2006 inquiring about the status of U.S. patent application 10/580,374 filed 23 May 2006. The application is being processed by the U.S. Designated/Elected Office and a Notification of Missing Requirements (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) will soon be issued. A review of the oath submitted 23 May 2006 indicates that it is not signed by one of the inventors, JinMing Feng. Please be notified that applicants may file the missing papers in a U.S. application without having to wait for the Notification of Missing Requirements to be issued. The submission of the missing papers will expedite the processing of the application. All further inquiries about the status of this application may be addressed to Catherine Short, Manager of the U.S. Designated/Elected Office at (703) 308-9140, extension 220 or to Terry Vessels, Supervisor of Team I, at telephone number (703) 308-9140, extension 221.

Sincerely,

Nguyễn Ngọc-Hồ
Paralegal Specialist
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